

Message Text

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R 311014Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 071770

EXDIS

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM PHNOM PENH DATED MARCH 31, 1975 SENT
COMUSSAG NKP INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI, SECSTATE WASHDC IS RE-
PEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 5740

EXDIS/MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CB, VS AEMR, RVN

SUBJECT: EVACUATION OF EMBASSY STAFF

DEPT ALSO PASS INFO JCS, SECDEF, WASHDC, DAO SAIGON (AOSAR-ET)

1. THE ASSISTANT MILITARY ATTACHE AND FIRST SECRETARY
OF THE RVN EMBASSY HERE FORMALLY REQUESTED ASSISTANCE
OF THE DATT AND EMBASSY PHNOM PENH TO OBTAIN AIR
TRANSPORTATION FROM HERE TO SAIGON WITHIN THE NEXT
WEEK FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- A. 69 PERSONNEL, MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY STAFF AND
THEIR DEPENDENTS (24 VN CIVILIAN AND MILITARY STAFF
PERSONNEL, 15 LOCAL EMPLOYEES OF THE EMBASSY, SOME
OF WHOM ARE OF VN DESCENT, AND 30 DEPENDENTS).
- B. APPROXIMATELY 3 CUBIC METERS OF EMBASSY EQUIPMENT.

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C. BAGGAGE FOR PERSONNEL, WHICH WILL NOT EXCEED

30 KG PER PERSON.

D. 20-30 WEAPONS(M16/CARBINE) TO BE CARRIED OUT BY THE TEN RVN SOLDIERS(EMBASSY GUARDS), INCLUDED IN THE 69 FIGURE ABOVE.

2. THE MILITARY ATTACHE REQUESTED SPECIFICALLY THAT THESE PERSONNEL BE SENT TO SAIGON ON A DC8 RETURNING FROM RICE LIFT INTO PHNOM PENH. HIS REASONING IS THAT BY THIS MODE ALL OF THE PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT COULD GO AT ONCE AND HOPEFULLY VERY SOON AND NOT BE CARRIED OUT OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME. THE RVNAF STAFF HAS ALSO APPROACHED DAO SAIGON ON THIS SAME REQUEST. DATT PHNOM PENH HAS BEEN IN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH BOTH COL MCCURDY, AIRA, AND MR. SEALS, AOSAR-ET IN SAGION.

3. U.S. MISSION, PHNOM PENH, RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THIS REQUEST AND AUTHORITY FOR MISSION REPRESENTATIVE TO MAKE DIRECT COORDINATION WITH AIRCRAFT REPRESENTATIVES CONCERNED TO ARRANGE REQUESTED TRANSPORTATION TO BE ACCOMPLISHED EARLY THIS WEEK. WE HAVE ACCEPTED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE EMERGENCY EVACUATION, IF NECESSARY, OF UP TO 14 RVN EMBASSY PERSONNEL. HOWEVER, IN THE EVENT OF A REQUIREMENT TO EXECUTE EAGLE PULL, WE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY FIND ON OUR HANDS THE ENTIRE RVN MISSION, BEGGING TO BE INCLUDED IN OUR PLAN. DESPITE AGREEMENT THAT WE WILL ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR 14 ONLY WE WOULD FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO REFUSE THEIR REQUEST AT THAT TIME BECAUSE OF OUR CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GVN. IT THEREFORE BEHOOVES US TO ASSIST IN REDUCING TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE THE SIZE OF THE RVN MISSION IN PHNOM PENH.

4. USAID FLIGHTS TO SAIGON DO NOT PROVIDE ADEQUATE SPACE TO ACCOMPLISH THIS ASSISTANCE BECAUSE THEY USE AIRCRAFT OF SMALL INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY AND DO NOT GO TO SAIGON FREQUENTLY ENOUGH.

5. EARLIEST ACTION ON THIS REQUEST WOULD BE APPRECIATE SO THAT THE RVN EMBASSY CAN BE ASSISTED
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TO REDUCE ITS STAFF RAPIDLY.
DEAN UNQUITE KISSINGER

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NNN

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